

Subjects: Estate of William Powell;
Otto Helbing (Germany) Clarke, Allen, Harper + Matthews
[15 Broad St., NYC] 1930-1931

CLARKE, ALLEN, HARPER & MATTHEWS

(EVERETT, CLARKE & BENEDICT)

15 BROAD STREET
NEW YORK

GEORGE M. CLARKE
WILLIAM F. ALLEN
HAROLD HARPER
BENJAMIN A. MATTHEWS
ALBERT C. ROTHWELL

JOHN P. ALLEE
MORGAN J. O'BRIEN, 2D
WALTER C. ELLIOTT
JAMES M. FASSETT
MURRAY F. JOHNSON

CABLE ADDRESS: THEOLOGAL
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Hanover
2-6100

December 11, 1930.

W. R. Powell Estate

The American Numismatic Society,
Broadway & 155th Street,
New York City.

Dear Sirs:

Your letter dated December 9, 1930 to the executors of the Estate of William R. Powell, has come to us as attorneys for Mr. Powell's executrix.

Before submitting the matter to the executrix of Mr. Powell's Estate we would like to be advised of the form in which his commission to the society to buy the medals and decorations referred to was made and if it was in writing to have a copy of it. If it was not in writing but given by word of mouth to an officer or representative of the society, will you be good enough to let us have a certificate from such an officer or representative of the time when the authority was given and the extent of it?

Very truly yours,

A m

W. F. Allen

December 12th 1930

Clarke, Allen, Harper & Matthews
15 Broad Street
New York City

Gentlemen:

RE: Estate of William R. Powell

Responding to your letter of December 11th, I am herewith submitting to you the various steps attendant on our last transaction with the late Mr. Powell.

a. (a) Carbon copy of our letter of the 25th of September, to Mr. Powell, notifying him of a forthcoming sale of Napoleonic material.

(b) Either the following day or the day after, we received a telephone call from him at which time he stated that he would be willing to pay for material from this sale, amounting to the value of \$200.00. Also, he wished us to bid on two lots of decorations in addition to the material covered by the above mentioned sum of \$200.00. We do not know whether these additional decorations were intended for himself or for the Society. I am inclined to think that he had at home a small collection of decorations to which he intended to add those for which he asked us to bid.

(b) On the day following his telephone message we sent him our letter of September 26th, showing the bids we were making on various items. This letter he returned to us after raising two of the bids and placing his O. K'd initials at the bottom.

(c) Carbon copy of our letter of September 30th, to Otto Helbing of Germany, bidding on certain pieces, as indicated.

(d) Original letter from Otto Helbing, of October 18th, stating that he is sending us, in two packages, our successful bids.

(e) Carbon copy of our letter of November 14th, enclosing cheque of RM. 1,226, to Otto Helbing.

(f) Original received bill from Otto Helbing for the sum of RM. 1226. which, converted into American money, amounts to the sum of \$292.16. On this bill I have indicated those bids which Mr. Powell said should be covered by the \$200.00 mentioned above, but our bids only reached RM. 437 - approximately \$100.00. The last two items are the bids for the decorations which he wished especially to have, and the cost is about \$192.00.

As you note, we are sending you the originals and office copies of the whole transaction, and we should, therefore, be very much obliged to you for the return of this correspondence for our files, when you have finished with it.

If this letter does not fulfill all the requirements, please let us know and we shall try to meet anything further.

Very truly yours,

Curator.

Jan. 3, 1931

Clarke, Allen, Harper & Matthews
15 Broad Street
New York City

RE: Estate of William R. Powell

Gentlemen:

As our fiscal year closes with our Annual Meeting on January 10th, we are desirous of knowing whether the bill for \$292.00 contracted with Otto Helbing of Germany, at the late Mr. Powell's request, and paid by us, will be reimbursed to this Society before we close our books. We have had no acknowledgement of our letter of December 12th with enclosures. We should be very much obliged to you for some word as to what we may expect.

Very truly yours,

Curator.